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# **EWS INPORT**

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D-DAY: Port Colborne flight lieutenant W.J. Mahagan dies one day after the invasion at Normandy

# behind enemy lines

#### **GREG FURMINGER** Innort News Staff

As an 11-year-old, he probably paused on his way to Steele Street School once or twice to admire a Packard or Nash automobile passing by, hoping one day he would find himself behind the wheel.

A few years later, the mind of a teenaged Wilfred Joseph Mahagan likely would have shifted gears to girls after finding himself roaming the halls of Port Colborne High School. What is for certain is that by the time he was in his early 20s, his thoughts had turned to survival, flying low to the ground piloting a single-seat bomber in search of enemy tanks and trains.

He was shot down by flak behind enemy lines on June 7. 1944 — the day after Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy in northern France. Records show his plane exploded as it hit the ground.

His hopes and dreams ended at that moment "Short life, Twenty-one," Dennis Paris's thoughts seem to drift off after his remark

The Welland retiree has made it his mission in recent years to learn more about the young, lanky man he stumbled upon while poring over old photos of his father Frank Paris Ir. after his death in 2000.

His research has included hours spent scouring the Internet with his wife, Candace, and making contact with the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum in Hamilton and other sources

Among the old photos of his father and the young pilot, both pictured in uniform and as regular neighbourhood chums. was a letter Mahagan wrote while training for the Royal Canadian Air Force.

See MAHAGAN on Page 2



Wilfred Joseph Mahagan, a Canadian flight lieutenant from Port Colborne who was shot down behind enemy lines in France and killed on June 7, 1944, at the age of 21.









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# **LOCALNEWS**

MAHAGAN

# Hopes, dreams ended behind enemy lines

On the small Air Forces stationery, he wrote - as a young man would — about his hometown, saving nothing about where he was stationed while still in Canada. He wrote about visiting Frank Paris Sr. in hospital, and sitting down at a home to eat cake - but mostly frost-

Dennis's dad, who served as a plane mechanic during the war because a blood pressure issue prevented him from flying, and Mahagan attended Steele Street School and Port Colborne High School together.

Mahagan grew up in the house of William and Eileen Mahagan at 164 Elm St., near Ash St. His death certificate shows he was adopted, and that his given name was Joseph

Wilfred Yurch "We haven't found any information to suggest there's others in his family," says Candace.

Dennis says when he has driven by the house, he has thought about knocking at the front door to share the tale of the young pilot who would not return home

A bedroom in the home was likely kept tidy by the pilot's mom as she awaited his return seven decades ago.

Mahagan received his wings at Camp Borden. A newspaper announcement that ran with his photo said he was ranked fourth in his class. Best guess is that this was just months before it would be reported he had

been killed in combat. His RCAF service number was J/11280. He flew with 440 Squadron.

When Mahagan took flak in France, he was flying a 2,100-horsepower Hawker Typhoon MN307, a British Royal Air Force fighter-bomber used for ground support, affec-tionately called a Tiffy. It was

armed with cannons and either bombs or rockets, armourpiercing warheads. The three-bladed propeller plane on the day he died would have had thick black and white stripes painted across the top and bottom of wings and tail section - referred to often as

Invasion Stripes, painted on Allied forces planes for the huge D-Day mission to avoid friendly fire casualties. Flying deep in German-occupied territory the day after the

Allies' successful siege of Juno, Omaha and other beaches in Normandy, Mahagan met his The flight lieutenant is buried

in a tiny cemetery in Novers-Bocase in Calvados, France, He lies in front of one other Allied soldier, a young British man.

The Parises visited France last September to learn more about the hometown of Dennis's grandfather and to tour Second World War cemeteries. But the visit to them was mostly to find the resting place of the

young pilot. "All the D-Day beaches stuff was kind of secondary to finding that gravesite and paying our respects," Dennis says. And indeed, he and his wife found Wilfred Joseph Maha-

"It was amazing, after all the research, that there we are," Candace recalls of the experi-

The husband and wife left a Canadian flag at his grave. And they left a business card. topped with a maple leaf, that contained their contact information. They have since made contact with a couple who live

near the cemetery. Retired French couple Jacques and Mauricette Marie took it upon themselves to be caretakers of Mahagan's grave, which is framed by a decorative concrete curb. They wash his headstone and keep it maintained with fresh flowers. A small rose bush

In an e-mail, they wrote in French that they have been tending to the grave and its neighbouring one for the past 10 years, Translated to English. Jacques writes:

is also planted there.

"They were poorly main-tained and we felt ashamed. "Born in 1942 we are a generation who cannot forget these events and it is just simply out of respect and recognition. It

seems a minimum. "We are a retired couple who live 30 metres from the cemetery Novers-Bocage, I personally am also a veteran of the war in Algeria and maybe this explains our behaviour."

Just this past week, and following exchanges with the Parises, the Maries placed a large black-and-white photo of Mahagan in front of his headstone, framed with a powder

Little is known today of Wilfred Joseph Mahagan, but it is clear the Canadian, the Port Colborne youth, will not be forgotten for his role in liberating



STAFF PHOTO Dennis and Candace Paris have been researching Wilfred Joseph Mahagan, a Canadian flight lieutenant from Port Colborne who was shot down behind enemy lines in France and killed on June 7, 1944. Mahagan was a childhood friend of Dennis's father. Frank Paris Jr., who also served in the Second World War

SUPPLIED PHOTO The gravesite of Port Colborne's Wifred Joseph Mahagan, a 21-year-old pilot shot down behind enemy lines in France on June 7, 1944. Mahagan is one of only two forces men, the other British. buried in the tiny cemetery in Noyers Bocage

In 2011. Dennis had a memorial published in The Welland Tribune for a special Remem-

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brance Day section. It read: brave young man." "Through family photos, military records and one special greg furminger@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @GregAtTheTrib

letter. I feel I have known this

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# **LOCALNEWS**

MAYORS LUNCHEON: Port Colborne, Wainfleet leaders provide recaps

# **Badawey remains mum on election plans**

#### Inport News Staff

Vance Badawey continues to play it cov about whether he'll run for re-election this fall. Ouestioned by a reporter following his state-of-the-city address during a luncheon at

Port Colborne Country Club in Wainfleet, he laughed, then quipped about the final day for candidates to register. That date is Sept. 8. It was one of the few lighter

moments that followed an otherwise serious recap of the past four years of his term, and that offered by Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs during the Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce event

Jeffs, who is seeking a second term, said "I've had a few doozies in my four years" while als and tribulations as a rookie politician, including wind turbines, septic system inspections and the since abandoned Big Pipe plan of the regional

municipality. She said efforts are being made to lift the boil-water advisory slapped on her township's lakeshore back in 2006.

\*So where is Wainfleet going? I guess that depends on the outcome of Oct. 27," she said, referring to municipal election day. In the meantime, she said

she will continue to push to give Wainfleet businesses a higher profile in Niagara. Badawey again entertained

a lunch crowd with stories about the industrial successes in Port Colborne, and the city's efforts to approve six com-

reflecting on some of her tri- munity improvement plans - Wainfleet will develop one, Jeffs said - and replacement of aging infrastructure, work which last year yielded a wooden water-sewer pipe in front of city hall.

Port Colborne is poised for strong growth, he said, a sign that his city is bouncing back from fears about a new Love Canal sparked when he was then a 29-year-old mayor and historic Inco soil contamination concerns were first raised. Today, he said, Port Col-

borne is also focused on providing healthy, active options for its residents, a direction flowing from the Vale Health and Wellness Centre opened last war. greg.furminger@sunmedia.ca

Twitter: @GregAtTheTrib



Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badawey addresses a chamber of commerce luncheon audience during his address Thursday at Port Colborne Country Club.

CATS: 'The programs are clearly working'

# Cocktails for Kitties aimed at feline overpopulation initiatives

#### Inport News Staff

Four years. Nearly 1,000 cats.

If the numbers are any indication, Port Colborne Foline Initiative seems well on its way to addressing the cat overpopulation problem in the lakeside city. The grassroots organiza-

tion marks its fourth anniversary this month and is inching close to its 1,000th-cat milestone, with 965 felines enrolled in its three programs Operation CatSnips assists

with TNVR (trap, neuter, vaccinate, return) of feral cats, SNAP (spay/neuter assistance program) assists lowincome pet owners with getting their cats spayed or neutered, and KitKat sees feral kittens fostered, socialized and ultimately adopted.

"We've absolutely noticed a difference in Port Colborne." PCFI founder Kristi Mallinson Vogel said while thinking back on the past four years "The programs are clearly working

Complaint calls about cars



Kristi Mallinson Vogel, founder of Port Colborne Feline Initiative, holds one of many cats up for adoption at Welland Humane Society's Cat Adoption Centre at Seaway Mall. In its four years, PCFI has spayed and neutered nearly 1,000 feral cats and those belonging to low-income

roaming neighbourhoods have lessened at city hall and there's less buzz in the community about cats being an issue, Mallinson Vogel said. "We've definitely seen a

decrease this year at our Port Colbome shelter in the number of cats that are coming in," said manager with Welland and District Humane Society. "There's been a real improvement in the volume

of stray cats," she said, crediting PCFI for its work. While progress has been made, the group's work is far

from over. PCFI recently began a partnership with Port Colborne's East Village action committee

to help address the cat population problem in the city's "It's a hotspot," Mallinson

Vogel said. The volunteer-run group works closely with the

humane society and uses the shelter's intake statistics to help determine Port Colborne areas most in need of "We're going to continue

doing what we're doing," Mallinson Vogel said. "If opportunity allows and funding is available, then maybe we can expand to

other areas of south Niagara." The organization is on the hunt for corporate sponsors and private donors to help further its cause, but relies

continue its work. PCFI has four annual fun-

draisers, including Cocktails for Kitties, which is coming up on June 13 at Roselawn Centre. It also runs an ongoing bottle drive throughout "The more we can raise

through events and donations, the quicker we can get the job done," Mallinson Vogel said.

It will ultimately resolve the issue. We're confident

this will work PCFI volunteers recently began a new initiative, creating "KitKat cuddle mats" for cats at the humane society. The knit and crocheted

mats are meant to reduce the stress of the cats while they're awaiting adoption. The organization is looking for donations of bulky or chunky varn, as well as vol-

unteers to help create the For more information, visit www.facebook.com/ varnkitty.

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## INPORTANEWS

Published by InPort News, Sun Media Corp. 228 East Main Street, Welland, Ontario, L3B 5P5 Tel: 905-732-2414 Fax: 905-732-3660

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# Vote, but first learn, think about decision

ow is the time to start thinking about how you will vote in the upcoming provincial election, if you haven't turned your mind to your choice already.

Voting is a right and how you choose to exercise it is really up to you. If you don't want to vote, you don't have to. If you decide based on tea leaves, a gut feeling or the perceived personality of candidates or leaders, that's your business. But you do yourself and your fellow citizens a disservice if you stay home, or if you cast your vote

If you're fed up with the whole thing, it's arguably better to register your feeling with a spoiled ballot than to be silent - which, as the saving goes, implies consent.

While one ballot among millions is unlikely to be the deciding factor, especially in our first-past-the-post system in which votes cast for a riding's unsuccessful candidate make no real difference in the composition of the legislature, it is still important that the collective will be measured. There are organizations of all political stripes trying to set the agenda, and if regular people don't take part, those organizations wield more power than they should.

There are plenty of people out there who urge people to vote. But casting a ballot should really be the final step

To be a truly responsible citizen, you need to make an informed choice based on reason. Listen to what the candidates have to say, assess whether their positions

are plausible, consider if they reflect what you believe and value, Weigh their records, Decide if they will be willing or able to follow through with their promises. The same goes for political parties — what they say might sound good, but does it stand up to scrutiny from yourself and from others? Are they trying to manipulate

you through fear, favour or plain old propaganda? Now more than ever vast amounts of information is at the electorate's fingertips. But the quality of much of that information is questionable to say the least. Avoid cynicism, but read and listen critically, with an open mind. Give those outside the traditional PC-Liberal-NDP triangle a hearing — while it's unlikely they will be in power. to dismiss them out of hand stifles new and at times bold

They say we get the government we deserve. Let's deserve a good one.

ideas worthy of consideration.

# One loser, no winners in leaders' debate

Ou can actually pinpoint the moment during last Tuesday night's leaders' debate when Kathleen

Wynne lost. She was asked what programs, if any, her government would cut to balance the budget. On the Bizarre Nonsense O-Meter, with one being total rational sense and 10 being anything uttered by

Rob Ford, the Liberal leader's answer ranked about a 6.5. Instead of answering the question,

Wynne blathered on about how she explains to Grade 5 students what taxes are, then proceeded to explain to voters - that is, adults - what taxes are, as if we were those students.

The face-palm that followed that answer nearly knocked me out. Look, we all knew Wynne would be on the defensive. The incumbent

always faces the most slings and arrows. She has to defend an unpopular Liberal government marred by scandals. After the debate, her supporters said

she didn't crumble under the combined assault of Tory boss Tim Hudak and NDP Leader Andrea Horwath. And that is true, she didn't. She staved composed despite both her opponents trying, and failing, to channel their inner Brian Mulroney.

Still, Wynne didn't actually say anything. I mean, nothing. There was zero substance.

She assured us the Liberals have a well thought out plan, which would be great if we had any idea what the plan actually is or how it's supposed to work. For a leader in the position to win a

tight election, she didn't do much to win voters over. So if Wynne could be called the loser

of the debate, did one of the other two win?

To his credit, Hudak didn't make his weakening position any worse, but I doubt he made any gains. He stuck to his economic guns and attacked Wynne

hard on issues of ethics. That first part is the problem. He continued to defend, against all reason

and evidence, his Million Jobs Plan that must have been conjured up in the Hogwarts School of Voodoo Mathematics. If you were already a member of the

Tory faithful, you probably think Hudak performed like Jack Kennedy. If you have a soft spot for numbers that actually add up, you probably just rolled

As for Horwath, she likely had the strongest performance of the night,

particularly if you measure victory by the number of effective zingers. Her comment that we now know Hudak's young daughter is better at math than her dad was particularly

However, while her insistence that voters do not need to choose between the PCs' bumbling math and the Liberals' questionable ethics but could vote NDP instead sounded good, it did little to actually explain her plans for

the province.

She repeated again her intention to slash ER wait times in half by hiring nurse practitioners, which would be great if the number of nurse practitioners had anything to do with wait times. Which they don't.

In other words, like Wynne and Hudak I doubt Horwath was able to move the polls in her favour.

On the whole it was a humourless, listless debate between three politicians who suffer a woeful lack of personality and legitimate ideas.

Things can still change, with just over a week to go before the June 12 vote. But I think for all three leaders, that debate can be filed under the heading Missed Opportunity.

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# Thinking about the consequences

friend was sharing how he had Ataken his truck in for a routine oil

change and maintenance check. When he came home and checked the bill, he noticed that they had used 5W30 oil instead of the synthetic that had been the norm until now.

He promptly called the dealership, The woman who answered the phone heard him out and made a comment about how 5W30 would not hurt his engine. He was not amused. He asked her to pull up his vehicle's service history on the computer. She had to admit that they had goofed up.

When he asked what they were going to do about it, she put him on hold, talked to someone (presumably the service manager) for a minute and she told him that if he could bring his truck in, they would replace the oil only, not the filter, mind you. Also, they would not charge him labour, but he would have to pay for the oil. Now you know why my friend is not

taking his truck back to them ever again. Frankly, I was flabbergasted when I heard this and began to ask myself why the service manager would not have

simply offered to replace the 5W30 with synthetic oil along with the filter, no charge. It would've been only fair, since it

long-term profit.

Plus it would have generated a tremendous amount of goodwill in my friend who, rather than tell me about how poorly they treated him, could've bragged on how quickly they apologized and made up for their mistake plus offered him 50% on his next oil change (hint, hint!). This would've locked him in for life as a customer. With the cost of maintenance and repairs these days, they would've gained hundreds, if not thousands of dollars in business over the lifetime of the truck

Their short-term thinking robbed them of It reminded me of the time that Esau traded his birthright to his younger brother Jacob for a bowl of lentil soup (Genesis 25:29-34). Was his hunger so great that he had to forfeit something invaluable for a cheap bowl of soup?

How could be have avoided this grievous error in judgment? How could the dealership have done things differently? How could you, beloved reader, stay away from such mistakes?

The solution is amazingly simple, although it is not always easy to do in the heat of the moment. Here it is.

Take time to think about the consequences of your choice. Better still, write down the next few things that are likely to follow as a result of your decision.

Had the service manager done this, his flow chart would look something like this:

Customer asked to pay for our mistake; Gets ticked off; Takes his business elsewhere; We potentially lose thousands of dollars over the next five to seven years; Could generate negative publicity or dishonourable mention in a column. Would he still go through with his deci-

sion to charge for the synthetic oil? Not likely, eh?

In Esau's scenario, it would be something like: I trade my birthright: Lose it forever:

My future would be affected adversely: That is too high a price to pay for a lousy bowl of lentil soup: I can put up with a growling stomach till I get someone to cook me a meal. Disaster averted. Destiny accelerated.

Now it's your turn. Before you make a choice in a hurry - because you want to make a short-term profit or you want to satisfy your appetite or because your hormones are going haywire or (please fill in the blanks), would you take some time to think about the consequences? You'll be glad you did.

Rev. Jeeva Sam pastors both United Church congregations in Wainfleet - Forks Road East and Morgan's Point. He also writes posts such as this regularly on www.destirrywordoftheday.com.

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MELL AND

## ■readers'views

#### CADING MAN?

When I read John Begin's comment Thursday that Tim Hudak "is a caring family man." I immediately wondered what the 100,000 families of the public-sector workers would have to say about that after Mr. Hudak fired them. DAVID FOWLER WAINFLEET

#### CONSPIRACY THEORY

What a coincidence. The two NHL teams playing in the Stanley Cup finals represent the two largest television markets in the U.S. Don't be surprised if the series goes seven games to boost revenue and soak the fans. The national hose league is masterful at separating money from their fans' wallets and into the owners' and players' bank accounts CHARLES OWEN MELL AND

PLEASE VOTE

As we approach election day, we

hear "I am not going to vote," But I can never find a reason for not voting. There is only one moment of democracy - when you go behind that little box with the names of the candidates in our riding on a sheet of paper. You can spoil the ballot. The buzzword this time is telling the electorate that you would like to have your vote registered as NOA (none of the above). It's another strategy by someone who has nothing to offer. You can complain about your choices or lack thereof, but maybe we should all not show up, then what would the results would be like? To those who have children, do you teach them the same thing? What sort of society do you wish to leave as a legacy? I'm proud my parents, their parents and their friends chose to vote, I still like the society I inherited from them. I would like to think my friends would like to leave a good legacy for their children and their children's friends. Do we have a democratic society? Yes, Use it wisely. It is better than the alternative, silence with no choice. We can make change happen and we will

if need be, Tell a friend, family or neighbour "I am going to vote, join RON ST. LOUIS

#### WYNNE WON'T TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

If you or I were to misappropriate a few dollars we would be branded as a criminal and sent to jail. What has happened to our society that we allow the Liberal government of Ontario to misanpropriate a billion dollars then say. 'I'm sorry" and run for re-election as if it never happened? What has happened to the moral compass of the citizens of Ontario when polls show that these same Liberals may he in position to win re-election? I see the "Anyone but Hudak" campaign and can't help but wonder how can you consider voting for a Liberal government that misappropriated money to further their own political ends, wasted \$500 million on slots at race tracks, blew millions on eHealth, Ornge, OPG and OLG fiascos, is going to rise your hydro bill by 46% and is preparing to put a 10-cent-a-litre tax on our gas? Even if Tim Hudak does all the "bad" things you say he is going to do, it wouldn't be humanly possible for him to create as many fiascos as the Liberals have created during their tenure. I was impressed that Hudak said he would step aside if he did not deliver on his plan in two years. He is taking responsibility for his actions: Something Ms. Kathleen Wynne has not done to this day. GAYESMITH

LAKE TEMAGAMI

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benefits from fibre is extensive...

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Fibre can also help to reduce your cholesterol levels. When your cholesterol levels are high, unhealthy plaque is deposited on the walls of the arteries. This can lead to an increased risk of heart disease. Soluble fibre helps to lower blood cholesterol.

overweight people have been shown to lose quite significant amounts of excess body fat simply by increasing the amount of

fibre in their daily diet. Fibre is bulky and, therefore, can be very filling. Fibre is also low in fat. Soluble fibre forms

a gel that slows down the emptying of the stomach and the transit time of food through the digestive system. This extends the time a person feels satisfied or 'full'. It also delays the absorption of sugars from the intestines.

Delaying the absorption of sugar helps to lower your overall blood sugar levels and prevent a rapid rise in blood insulin levels which has been linked to an increased risk of diabetes. And lastly, getting enough fibre in your diet will keep you regular. That's very helpful.

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FRESH, HOT, HUGE SELECTION

# **Candidates add names to Port Colborne ballot**

#### ALLAN BENNER

Innort News Staff office Two candidates have stepped forward in hopes of joining Port Colborne city council after the Oct.

27 municipal election. Wednesday morning, Michael Reles registered as a Ward 1 candidate and Casey Biko registered as

candidate for Ward 2. Reles said his position as communications specialist for Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority helped inspire his decision to run

for elected The lifelong Port Colborne

resident said he has considered running MICHAEL RELES for elec-

tion in the past, primarily concerned about a "legacy of reckless spending." The 34-year-old was particularly concerned about "irresponsible and

unacceptable" practice of adding long-term debt to tay bills

He said working with NPCA "has exposed me a little more to what municipal politics is" and given him the "little nudge" he needed to commit to run-

ning for office. He said he plans to use his vacation later this year to devote his time to his campaign, knocking on doors of his neighbours' homes in Ward 1 to talk to

put forth a strong effort, putting my own personal

time into it," he said. Concerns about accountability and fiscal responsibility also motivated Biko to run for

A production technician at Jungbunzlauer and a volunteer executive officer for Port Colborne Marine Auxiliary Rescue (POCOMAR). Biko said he hopes to be part of a city council that holds city staff and the

making and where our money is spent." "I'm the type of person that's

going to ask the tough questions and get the answers that people really want to know," said the 40-year-old lifelong city resident.

"It has been frustrating account. to sit on the sidelines and watch so many questions able "on decisiongo unanswered and our council not do anything about it. It's time that we change how we do business in Port Colborne," he said.

just that.

"The people of Port Colborne want change, and I believe the results of this coming election will show

> allan.benner@sunmedia.ca Twitter: @abenner1



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VOICE REVIEW THE TRIBUNE

INPORT NEW

# **LOCALNEWS**

## Paratrooper among first Canadians on the ground for D-Day

#### ALLAN BENNER Inport News Staff

He was the first to leap into the terrible darkness

John Feduck was 20 years old, parachuting through the night sky about 30 kilometres behind enemy lines, It was about 1:30 a.m. on D-Day, June

6, 1944

Feduck was one of nearly 550 members of the elite First Canadian Parachute Battalion aboard 50 British planes flown into Nazi-occupied France, Their mission was to destroy communication towers and bridges in anticipation of the Allied forces landing on the beaches of Normandy seven hours later that day.

As his plane neared the drop zone, it was pelted by anti-aircraft fire. The plane was going to be shot out of the sky, forcing the paratroopers to jump before they reached their designated drop zone. "We had to get out of there," Feduck

As the soldier carrying a machine gun, he was first to jump through the small hatch in the floor of the Armstrong Whitworth Albemarle bomber.

"The guy who has the Bren machine gun jumps out first, because he has the most to carry," the now 90-year-old Port

Colborne resident said. The rest of the troops followed, but Feduck had no idea where they were or

where they would all land. "They were dropped all over the place," he said. Feduck had a 30-kg canvas pack filled

with equipment strapped to his legs, designed to fall away from him with the pull of a release handle to ease his landing. A nine-metre rope kept it tethered to him so he could easily retrieve it after he landed.

With that much gear, there was no room for anything else - not even a reserve parachute to rely on if his main chute failed. If the paratroopers had worn reserve chutes, they would not have been able to fit through the hatch in the plane's fuselage.

As he slowly descended through the darkness lit only by the flash of antiaircraft fire, things went from bad to

His helmet slipped from his head as he tumbled through the sky, then the equipment sack strapped to his legs did not release when he pulled the handle. His problems escalated as he neared

the ground. "I got hung up in the tallest tree in France," he said. "Well, it wasn't the tallest, but it felt like it was."

Feduck was helpless, hanging about three metres off the ground and unable to free himself from the tangled chords of the parachute and the equipment pack still strapped to his legs.













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#### PARATROOPER

# There were no markers. I didn't know where to go'

He couldn't make out who was talking in the dim light. At first, he

didn't recognize the language. "They were a German patrol coming through," he recalled.

the fields in search of the Allied paratroopers.

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Feduck went limp, dangling among the branches and fearful that in moments he wouldn't just be playing dead.
"I thought, "This is it," he said.

He recalled seeing the Nazi soldiers on the ground below, pointing up at him. But they apparently fell for his ruse and continued their hunt for more lively

Feduck pulled out his dagger, cut the cables and dropped to the ground, injuring his shoulder in the process.

Although he'd made it to the ground alive, he was alone deep behind enemy

lines with no idea where to find his fellow paratroopers. He spent the next several hours quietly searching through the countryside, doing his best to stay out of

"There were no markers, I didn't know where to go. He turned a corner and found himself

face to face with a German soldier. "I had my .45 I carried at the time, and I shot. I must have put three or four bullets in him," he said.

See FEDUCK on Page 9



pass, it's easy to forget the ramifications had it failed.



■ FEDUCK

# Advanced to rank for sergeant before end of war

Feduck turned and ran for his life, fearing there could be other enemy soldiers in the As dawn arrived, he finally found a few

familiar faces - members of the 9th Essex Parachute Battalion. He staved with them until he was reunited with his own battalion The paratroopers achieved their objec-

tives, setting the stage for the successful invasion. But their numbers were decimated in

Feduck was one of only 197 members of the 550-soldier battalion who survived the

He staved with the airborne regiment until

late 1945, fighting in several other horrific conflicts such as the Battle of the Rhine. He advanced to the rank of sergeant before he was discharged Aug. 17, 1946. Even then, he volunteered for duty in the Pacific, but the war ended before he was called on for serv-

In the many years since returning to his home in Port Colborne, his time spent with the First Canadian Parachute has remained an important part of his life. He has attended annual reunions of the battalion every year

The walls of his rec room are adorned with pictures and memorabilia that date back 70

Many of the carefully crafted models he made after his retirement from the Ministry of Transportation are the planes he jumped

from during battles years ago. In recent years, Feduck has returned to the sky, earning his recreational pilot's licence. And in the 1990s, he returned to parachut-

The man who made dozens of tumps into battle and even more training leaps from towers, barrage balloons and aircraft has a First Jump certificate framed on his wall, issued by a local recreational skydiving club.







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# INPORT DATEBOOK

#### JUNE 12 PROSTATE CANCER

support group meets 7 p.m. at the Canadian Cancer Society office, 45 Hannover Dr., St. Catharines, Dr. Ian Brown is guest speaker. Men and women welcome. For more information 905-934-1685

#### PHILOSOPHER'S CAFÉ

is at Wainfleet Township Public Library at 6:30 p.m. This month's topic of discussion is labour - unions and industry manufacturing, All welcome,

JUNE 13

#### BABYSITTER COURSE

(Red Cross) offered at Wainfleet Township Public Library, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This fun, interactive course teaches youths aged 11 to 15 how to be prepared and responsive caregivers, Participants must

bring a lunch and a doll or teddy bear to use as a baby

The Port Colborne Chorale Spring Concert starts 7:30 p.m. at St. James/

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INPORT NEWS THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2014 WANT YOUR NON-PROFIT **EVENT INCLUDED?** 

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during the practice session, Cost: \$50 St. Brendan's Anglican Church in per student. Register by June 6 as Port Colborne, Tickets are \$8 from space is limited. members or at the door t SPRING CONCERT

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Continued on Page 11

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#### From Page 10

AUTHOR READING

Meet author Laura Lane, at Port Colborne Public Library, who will read from her book Two Mothers One Prayer: Facing your Child's Cancer with Hope, Strength and Courage. Starts 1 p.m.

#### FLOWER SHOW

Port Colborne Horticultural Society's annual flower show is 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Friends Over 55 Seniors Centre at 554 Fielden Ave. Refreshments will be served.

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**7ION CEMETERY** 

Dunnville firefighters will lay wreaths. Winger Church of Christ (Disciples) will conduct the service. Bring lawn chairs. In the event of rain. the service will be held in Winger Church on

at Wainfleet Township Public Library, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Children of all ages can drop in to build a Lego or Duplo creation. Do not bring your own Lego.

#### A WEE BIT O' IRELAND

Port Colborne Public Library presents the Bryan Taylor Academy of Irish Dance at the L.R. Wilson Heritage Research Archives, at 6 p.m., Program includes Irish dance and a travelogue film, Free. Call the library at 905-834-6512 for details.



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What better way to reconnect with old friends than hitting the greens for a round of golf? Four estranged pals play catch-up while their wives are away in this classic hit comedy by Norm Foster, Canada's most-produced playwright. Join Lighthouse Theatre as it kicks off its 2014 season with this hilarious skewering of competition, masculinity, ego, and friendship.

For tickets call the box office 905-834-0833

For more details, visit www.showboattheatre.ca

Legault set the pace over Ancaster's John Kehoe and Freelton's Terry Ride-

out to remain undefeated in Division 1

It was all-Welland finish at the

Welland track in 450 intermediate. Shane Corbeil took his second check-

ered flag of 2014, this time beating

Hatrich of Lancaster, N.Y., and Cor-

Muskoka's Dustin Brown edged Rock-

wood's Logan Wilson and Welland's

Jacob Rainville for his second win in a

row in the youth class, and Welland's

Maguire Scott, Saturday's other repeat

winner, beat out Olivia Farkas from

Dain City and Shawn VanSoelen from

St. Anns for honours in the 50-cc. shaft-

the field in 50-cc, chain drive, Bran-

don Keys of Princeton, Ont., and Myles

Ward of Ancaster rounded out the top

See RACING on Page 18

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Wellandport's Mitchell Tinney paced

Dolan kept his win streak in tact in open intermediate by outracing Scott

Dolan and Justin Crumb.

speedway.

drive division.

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MOTORCYCLE RACING

Inport News Staff

Week 2 of the motorcycle racing sea-

Saturday's race card featured repeat

winners in seven of the 12 flat-track

classes and in the lone speedway divi-

Chippawa's Hunter Bauer and Jesse

Isherwood and Kyle Legault, both from Welland, all went 2-for-2 for the sec-

ond week in a row at the track formerly

Welland and Jimmy McCullough of

Paris, Ont., in the 85-cc class, and he

finished ahead of McCullough and

Mitchell Tinney of Wellandport in the

the 600 novice class, beating Port Col-borne's Robert Green and Welland's

Mitchell Green. He took the checkered

flag from Dundas' Robert Sheppard and Green in the main event in the 450

Isherwood again was the class of

65-cc division.

cc division

Bauer out raced Dustin Brown of

called Niagara Motorcycle Raceway.

son was an encore of opening night

for several riders at Welland County

Several familiar faces dominate winner's circle Eight riders open season 2-for-2

**Roast Pork Dinne** 

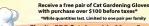
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hosted by Wainfleet Township Public Library at the recreation pavilion behind Wainfleet Arena. 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., for children aged four months to five years and their parent/caregiver. Bring your teddy bear friend for a picnic of activities and snacks, and bring a hat and a blanket to sit on. Call 905-899-1277 to register your attendance by June 12 and advise of any food allergies.

#### HINF 19 TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

hosted by Wainfleet Township Public Library at the recreation pavilion behind Wainfleet Arena, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., for children aged four months to five years and their parent/caregiver. Bring your teddy bear friend for a picnic of activities and snacks, and bring a hat and a blanket to sit on. Call 905-899-1277 to register your





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Chronic alcohol use increases acetaminophen (TYLENOL) metabolism increasing its conversion to metabolites toxic to the liver. It is always best not to exceed four grams of acetaminophen a day, especially if you are a heavy or binge drinker because of the damage it can due to your liver.

Chronic alcohol use along with NSAIDS (Ibuprofen) or aspirin can increase the risk of GI bleeds. However, an occasional drink with NSAID use is not likely an issue. If you are a patient on warfarin alcohol can inhibit warfarin metabolism and

increase your INR. If you change your usual alcohol intake you should have your INR checked. Certain antibiotics, and in particular metronidazole, has the potential when

mixed with alcohol to make people quite ill. When taken to together a patient may experience low blood pressure, shortness of breath, facial flushing, and nausea. Diabetic patients taking hypoglycemics such as GLYBURIDE or insulin are at risk

of severe hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) when they drink alcohol. These patients should limit alcohol to an occasional single drink. Any patient on medication for sleeping should be careful of alcohol consumption

because of the additive affects of drowsiness and respiratory depression. Patients have been known to aspirate their own yomit and die from intoxication. This could be more likely to happen if a person mixes alcohol with their sleep medication. This same problem could exist when patients mix alcohol and opiates.

It is always wise to consult your pharmacist or physician if you receive a new prescription and intend to have a few alcoholic beverages. Also please notify your physician or pharmacist if you are a chronic drinker. Even if you are not planning to drink while taking your prescription previous liver damage could affect how well you metabolize your medication. This could result in too high, or too low a dose for you.

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IUNE 20

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tickets can be purchased). For info call 905-834-0683.

Continued on Page 19

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#### RACING

# Racers revved up for new season

Mike LaBelle of Welland and Steve Ball of Waterloo each ended their first night of racing at the quarter-mile dirt track in the winner's circle. Labelle beat Port Colborne's Don Taylor and Mississauga's Doug Lawrence,

expert, and Ball finished ahead of 2013 points champion Sam Manyon of Clarence, N.Y., and

Rob Churchill of Sudbury in the veterans class. Taylor, a one-time Canadian champion, set the pace for Law-

and THE PIANO MEN

uin in 450 expert. Flat-track and speedway racing are held Saturday nights throughout the summer at the track located on Netherby Rd., just east of Hwy, 140 in



Riders in the open class lean their way into a corner in motorcycle racing Saturday at Welland County Speedway in Welland.



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#### From Page 15

#### JUNE 21 FACEBOOK WORKSHOP

Learn how to set up and use your own Facebook account. at Port Colborne Library. Free, Starts 3 p.m. Preregister at the library.

**JUNE 25** 

CRAFTS FOR ADULTS **JUNE 23** 

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with Stacey at Port JUNE 26 Colborne Public Library, 9 a.m. Make a "summer beach frame wreath." Cost is \$10.

Pre-register at the library. FILM BUFFS

discussion group meets at Port Colborne Public Library, 1:30 p.m. Members watch films at home and meet for discussion. Free. Call the library for program details, 905-834-6512.

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at Wainfleet Township Public Library. 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Children of all ages can drop in to build a Lego or Duplo creation. Do not bring your own Lego.

JUNE 30



**EVENING BOOK CLUB** meets at 6:30 p.m. in the meeting room of Wainfleet Township Public Library. This month's selection

is Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, by Jonathan Foer. To obtain a copy of the book, register as a club member in person or by calling 905-899-1277.

**1**9



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FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND JUNE 13th, 14th & 15th

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PhD, who lectures to doctors around the world about Nitric Oxide, Neogenis® Labs has created a revolutionary lozenge, called Neo 40 daily, that Based on the research of Dr. Nathan S. Bryan 90-SECOND CIRCULATION BOOSTER makes it easy to restore N-O levels. Are you concerned with high blood pressure or

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